# ABSTRACT

At step S101, user gives, as input, two curves at the time of start and at the time of end and reference correspondence points with respect to the respective curves. Then, at step S102, pursuit operation of reference correspondence point is carried out with respect to picture images successive in the time axis direction. As a result, positions of reference correspondence points at respective intermediate stages can be determined. Then, at step S103, interpolation of shape is carried out. Then, at step S104, interpolated shape determined at the step S103 is deformed in correspondence with reference correspondence point determined by the pursuit operation at the step S102. Accordingly, even in the case where contour shape does not linearly move, it is possible to precisely pursue correspondence points on the contour. Thus, contour shape with higher precision can be prepared.